

④ 003/007 #
Lund C
S. B. Bryce
4/1923

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Brown et al.
Application No.: 09/666,866
Filed: September 20, 2000
For: IMPROVED LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE
EXPANDABLE STENT
Examiner: P. Prebilic
Group Art Unit: 3738

Box: _____
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-9397

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 30, 2002, and is filed concurrently herewith a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) in order to be considered.

Please amend the Application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 16-21, 23, 24, and 26-35 from the Application.

Please add new claims 36-50.

36. (New) A stent comprising:

a plurality of adjacent serpentine circumferential bands, each of the serpentine circumferential bands having a proximal end region and a distal end region, the proximal end region and the distal end region each having a plurality of end portions; and

a plurality of connecting elements, each connecting element joining end portions of adjacent serpentine circumferential bands, wherein the end portions of the adjacent serpentine circumferential bands which are joined to one another are not longitudinally opposite one another, some of the serpentine bands having connecting elements extending from the proximal end region and the distal end region.